1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Muzaffarnagar	Muzaffarnagar	8511	8127	9002	10527
23.	Rampur	Rampur	1828	4033	3147	4489
24.	Saharanpur	Saharanpur	10819	9090	10010	12015
25.	Haridwar					
26.	Nainital	Nainital	6423	9464	7006	10141
27.	U.S.Nagar					
28.	Pauri	Sringar	1331	5337	2888	5586
29.	Chamoli	(Garhwal)				
30.	Rudraprayag					
31.	New Tehri	Uttarkashi	43	0	1845	2008
32.	Uttarkashi					
33.	Pilibhit	Pilibhit	2470	0	956	1555

Income from Speed Post Service

5364. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total income obtained from the speed post service during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 all over the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the speed post service is not growing at the same pace as the private courier service;

(c) to what extent has the public lost confidence in the effciency of the speed post service;

(d) the number of articles sent by speed post in 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(e) what are the expectations or targets for 2000-2001; and

(f) whether any steps are proposed to tone up the service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The total revenue generated from the Speed Post Service during the year 1998-99 & 1999-2000 was as under:

1998-99	Rs. 91.36 crore
1999-2000	Rs. 126.17 crore

(b) No, Sir. During 1999-2000, Speed Post revenue has grown up by around 38%.

(c) and (d) The public have not lost confidence in the efficiency of the Speed Post Services. The traffic of Speed Post Services has been growing consistently. The number of articles sent by Speed Post in the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are shown below:

1998-99	Rs. 195.95 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 312.64 lakhs

(e) During the year 2000-2001 Speed Post traffic and revenue will grow further.

(f) The Department of Posts has taken the following steps to tone- up the functioning of Speed Post services further:—

(a) Delivery through dedicated staff.

(b) Mechanisation of delivery.

(c) Free pick-up services from the customers premises.

(d) Computerisation of booking and delivery.

(e) Introduction of Track and Trace system.

(f) Monitoring of quality.

Grace period to Telephone Service Operators

†5365. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICA- TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given 180 days grace period for achieving the targets related to telephones in rural areas to telephone service operators;

(b) if so, the target fixed and when those targets were fixed and by when these targets were decided to be achieved; and

(c) the assurance Government have received with regard to the achievement of the target in the next 180 days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Letters have been issued to private licensees for achieving the targets committed for first 3 years of licence, by the date of completion of such 3 years period from the effective date of their licence agreement.

(b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

(c) So far Licensees have not given any definite indication of time- frame for achievement of their committed targets.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.